Investment (FDI) in Education, including higher education, is already being allowed under the automatic route, without any sectoral cap, since February, 2000 *vide* Order No. 7(4)/2000-IP dated 11 February, 2000 issued by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

(c) A committee of the CABE on the subject of "Financing of Higher & Technical Education" has been constituted to suggest ways of encouraging and regulating private participation and investments in Higher/Technical Education, among others.

(d) While there is no specific directive in this regard, a conference of State Ministers of Higher and Technical Education held at Bangalore on January 10-11, 2005, arrived at a broad consensus on the need for a Central Legislation in this regard. A draft bill has been prepared for vetting by the concerned Departments and circulation among various stakeholders including State Governments, to elicit their views for eliminating arbitrariness and malpractices in professional educational institutions.

Entry of Foreign Universities in India

641. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreign universities have started operations in India and are offering their degrees to the Indian students;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of such degrees are not recognized by AICTE or any Indian university;

(c) whether any steps are being planned by Government to exercise any checks and balances on such flagrant expansion of the foreign universities offering dubious quality education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) This Ministry has constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. C.N.R. Rao to examine all relevant issues pertaining to the entry of Foreign Universities in India.